

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Douglas G. Dunlap

Serial No.: 09/873,653

Filed: June 4, 2001

Docket No.: 10002842-1

Title: PRINTER SELECTION SYSTEM AND METHOD**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 14, 19, and 20 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 3, 4, 8-13, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, and 25-28 as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 211, further comprising:
linking the user and the printer selection system controller via a communication link,
wherein presenting the list includes presenting the list of the at least one of the printers to the
user via the communication link.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 211, further comprising:
receiving a printer selection for the print job from the user at the printer selection
system controller, wherein the printer selection includes a selected printer from the list of the
at least one of the printers.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
linking the user and the printer selection system controller via a communication link,
wherein receiving the printer selection includes receiving the printer selection for the print
job from the user via the communication link.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
distributing the print request to the selected printer.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
linking the printers and the printer selection system controller via a communication
link, wherein distributing the print request includes distributing the print request to the
selected printer via the communication link.

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8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~11, further comprising:
presenting to the user a user interface including at least one input field representing at least one option for the print job, wherein receiving the print request includes receiving at least one attribute for the print job as specified with the at least one input field of the user interface.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~11, wherein receiving the print request includes receiving at least one of a number of copies, a print medium, a printing quality option, a printing layout, a color printing option, a finishing option, a printer location, a printing priority, and an archive option for the print job.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2~~11, further comprising:
linking the user and the printer selection system controller via a communication link, wherein receiving the print request includes receiving the print request for the print job from the user via the communication link.
11. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 2, further comprising:~~ A method of selecting a printer from a plurality of printers to fulfill a print job of a user, the method comprising:
registering a printing capability of the printers with a printer selection system controller;
receiving a print request and a data file for the print job from the user at the printer selection system controller;
determining via the printer selection system controller which of the printers have the printing capability to fulfill the print job, including comparing the print request and the data file for the print job with the printing capability of the printers;
compiling a list of at least one of the printers which has the printing capability to fulfill the print job; and
presenting the list of the at least one of the printers to the user.

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~~associating a data file for the print job with the print request for the print job, wherein receiving the print request includes receiving the print request and the data file from the user at the printer selection system controller, and wherein determining which of the printers have the printing capability to fulfill the print job includes comparing the print request and the data file with the printing capability of the printers.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2~~11, further comprising:
linking the printers and the printer selection system controller via a communication link, wherein registering the printing capability includes registering the printing capability of the printers with the printer selection system controller via the communication link.
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~11, wherein registering the printing capability includes registering at least one of an identification, a print medium capability, a print quality capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, a printing speed, a printer queue, and an archive printing capability of the printers.
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim ~~14~~18, wherein the method further comprises:
receiving a printer selection for the print job from the user, wherein the printer selection includes a selected printer from the list of the at least one of the printers.
16. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the method further comprises:
distributing the print request to the selected printer.
17. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim ~~14~~18, wherein the method further comprises:
presenting to the user a user interface including at least one input field representing at least one option for the print job, wherein receiving the print request includes receiving at

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least one attribute for the print job as specified with the at least one input field of the user interface.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the method further comprises:~~ A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of selecting a printer from a plurality of printers to fulfill a print job of a user, the method comprising:

- registering a printing capability of the printers;
- receiving a print request and a data file for the print job from the user;
- determining which of the printers have the printing capability to fulfill the print job,
- including comparing the print request and the data file for the print job with the printing capability of the printers;
- compiling a list of at least one of the printers which has the printing capability to fulfill the print job; and
- presenting the list of the at least one of the printers to the user.

~~associating a data file for the print job with the print request for the print job, wherein receiving the print request includes receiving the print request and the data file from the user, and wherein determining which of the printers have the printing capability to fulfill the print job includes comparing the print request and the data file with the printing capability of the printers.~~

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2028, further comprising:
a communication link configured to link the printer selection system controller and the user, wherein the printer selection system controller is adapted to receive the print request for the print job from the user via the communication link and present the list of the at least one of the printers to the user via the communication link.

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22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~20~~28, wherein the printer selection system controller is adapted to receive a printer selection for the print job from the user, the printer selection including a selected printer from the list of the at least one of the printers, wherein the printer selection system controller is adapted to distribute the print request for the print job to the selected printer.
23. (Original) The system of claim 22, further comprising:
a communication link configured to link the printer selection system controller and the printers, wherein the printer selection system controller is adapted to distribute the print request for the print job to the selected printer via the communication link.
24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the printer selection system controller is adapted to receive the printing capability of the printers from the printers via the communication link.
25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~19~~28, wherein the printing capability of the printers includes at least one of an identification, a print medium capability, a printing quality capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, a printing speed, a printer queue, and an archive capability of the printers.
26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~19~~28, further comprising:
a user interface including at least one input field representing at least one option for the print job, wherein the user interface includes at least one of a number of copies, a print medium, a printing quality option, a printing layout, a color printing option, a finishing option, a printer location, a printing priority, and an archive field.
27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~19~~28, wherein the print request includes at least one of a number of copies, a print medium, a printing quality option, a printing layout, a color printing option, a finishing option, a printer location, a printing priority, and an archive option for the print job.

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28. (Currently Amended) ~~The system of claim 20~~A system for selecting a printer from a plurality of printers to fulfill a print job of a user, the system comprising:

a memory device configured to have a printing capability of the printers stored therein; and

a processor adapted to compare a print request and a data file for the print job with the printing capability of the printers to determine which of the printers have the printing capability to fulfill the print job, wherein the processor is adapted to compile a list of at least one of the printers which has the printing capability to fulfill the print job,

wherein the memory device and the processor are included in a printer selection system controller, wherein the printer selection system controller is adapted to receive the print request and a the data file for the print job, and wherein the processor is adapted to compare the print request and the data file with the printing capability of the printers to determine which of the printers have the printing capability to fulfill the print job wherein the printer selection system controller is adapted to present the list of the at least one of the printers to the user.

29. (Original) The system of claim 28, wherein the printer selection system controller is adapted to receive a printer selection for the print job from the user, the printer selection including a selected printer from the list of the at least one of the printers, wherein the printer selection system controller is adapted to distribute the print request and the data file for the print job to the selected printer.